

Correspondence.

**FRESH FIELDS AND PASTURES
NEW."**

[From a Southern Correspondent.]

Editor Massachusetts Ploughman:

more pleased with the land and charmed
with our people. The Railroad visitor to
our South sees nothing of our best land, or

here is the comfort or outlook of our citizens that was seen when I came 52 years

og cabins, dirt chimneys and dirt hearths

his State was under Indian title. At that time one could see at any domicile plenty of hog, hominy and industry. Now more than half of the voters have either one or the other, except as the nearest subsistence—indolence is the rule.

I found a house similar to that of my neighbors', three or four acres of cleared and, some twenty drained, and I bought. I left, 38 years after, when the "best army the world ever saw" came in the back way; I had some 700 acres under fence and culture, painted house, nice flower garden, 40 acres in orchard, fruit trees and flowers

The war left us as if a cyclone had passed, and worst on those who had good houses and the means to buy food and clothing.

books, pictures, all left. Now, after 80 years, I have been able to find out the name of the property, whose name is an envelope, a native of Massachusetts, and a graduate of Brown University. He came here 28 years ago, with no more property than the average man of his class. He was a "graduate of the class of '68," as "old Brown" can place at about 1870, who has not shown as yet, a lazy attitude. He has in his 28 years, accumulated some very plain, once used, necessaries, but he has not been able to accumulate, as we would think, \$20 per acre; and other property, and no doubt comfortable enough for a life support. He has more than 1000 acres of land, some of which are in meadow eight successive years, not a single acre in that state, but all in pasture, and some in woods, and some in other manure. On one piece shown me, cut a load of hay, averaging over 1000 ^{per} acre, from an acre; some two or three loads weighed, so as to give a certainty as to the value of the land. It was 1300 pounds per acre, but was good, when in

Corn has yielded in this State over 100 bushels, and premiums awarded again and again. Oats, 50 to 75 bushels. Dr. John W. Parker, of Columbia, S. C., received a premium from the State Society for a yield of 200 bushels of corn; it was grown on my father's homestead. Col. Wade Hampton

years ago, when returning from his Mississippi plantation, that his crop of corn averaged 80 bushels on 200 acres. Mr. W. L. Feniday, in Louisiana, opposite Natchez, called his overseer in, with Record Book, when I was on a visit, and said he had averaged 80 bushels. For 33 years on my place—while I lived there—I made all supplies, and sold, at least 20 years of the time, corn, meat, often hay; and yet I gathered full

365 days in every year. Fruits, flowers, fine horses and cattle, sheep and hogs, do no better in these United States, and I say no better men, or better housekeepers, or prettier girls can be found any where. It can be said that the quantity of the cash cash, on which an industrious man, as men worked 40 or 50 years ago, can make more than is ever was made, on farms in Massachusetts, with same labor and manure, as much corn, oats, hay and pig, and at least cost of muscle and wood. The negro under control is "the best in the world," but to do as he pleases he sits down on the hills for Government to feed him. 1000 acres of land, with a few hogs, and kept in culture, can be bought at \$16 cash per acre, which sold before the war at \$40. Yours truly, Wm. W. Phillips

Mississippi, Dec. 6, 1882.

HOW TO GROW EARLY CABBAGE.
[Cor. Gardeners' Monthly.]

I sowed the seeds of the kinds I wish to grow in February, in a box, in small rows, in shallow boxes in forcing pit, hot-bed, or if these are not to be had, a sunny window of the house will do. The boxes I use are made of deal, 12 inches wide, three inches deep; most of one-half inch boards. The seeds of early cabbage I generally raise are Early Jersey Wakefield (best if pure). Winteringhead, Early Summer and Fother's are the best for forcing; the others for second early. I only treated the first two as above stated; the second early I sowed in common hot-beds from the 15th to the 25th March, after the seeds were sown in boxes (say 15th of February) and about three inches high, it is necessary

those were worn in, about one or a half to two inches apart every way; or, put one plant in each pot, and pots close together in rows, treating the same as if planted in the open soil. I have used this method very largely. About one week or ten days before planting in garden, they must be watered, and the pots covered with a light and day, in the open air. I set out my plants in the open soil, and the plants which are in boxes are taken in the boxes to the part of the garden where the rows are to be made. I then take out the reel, stretch out straight, take plants out of boxes with care so that the soil will stay on the roots, and set them in the rows in rows and Early Summer the same; the other kinds twenty-four inches. The rows are made in the same way. The plants in boxes can be used. Early radish, lettuce, spinach, etc. can be sown between the cabbage and the early summer. The plants need all the room. After cabbage, celery and other vegetables can be raised to advantage. In fact, I have raised all the vegetables in boxes. Early radish, early lettuce, early kohlrabi, early savor, early celery, early asparagus, early

